

New Way Mississippi, Inc.

Transitional Program

Reentry services

Three controlling objective

Restoring – Transitional Services

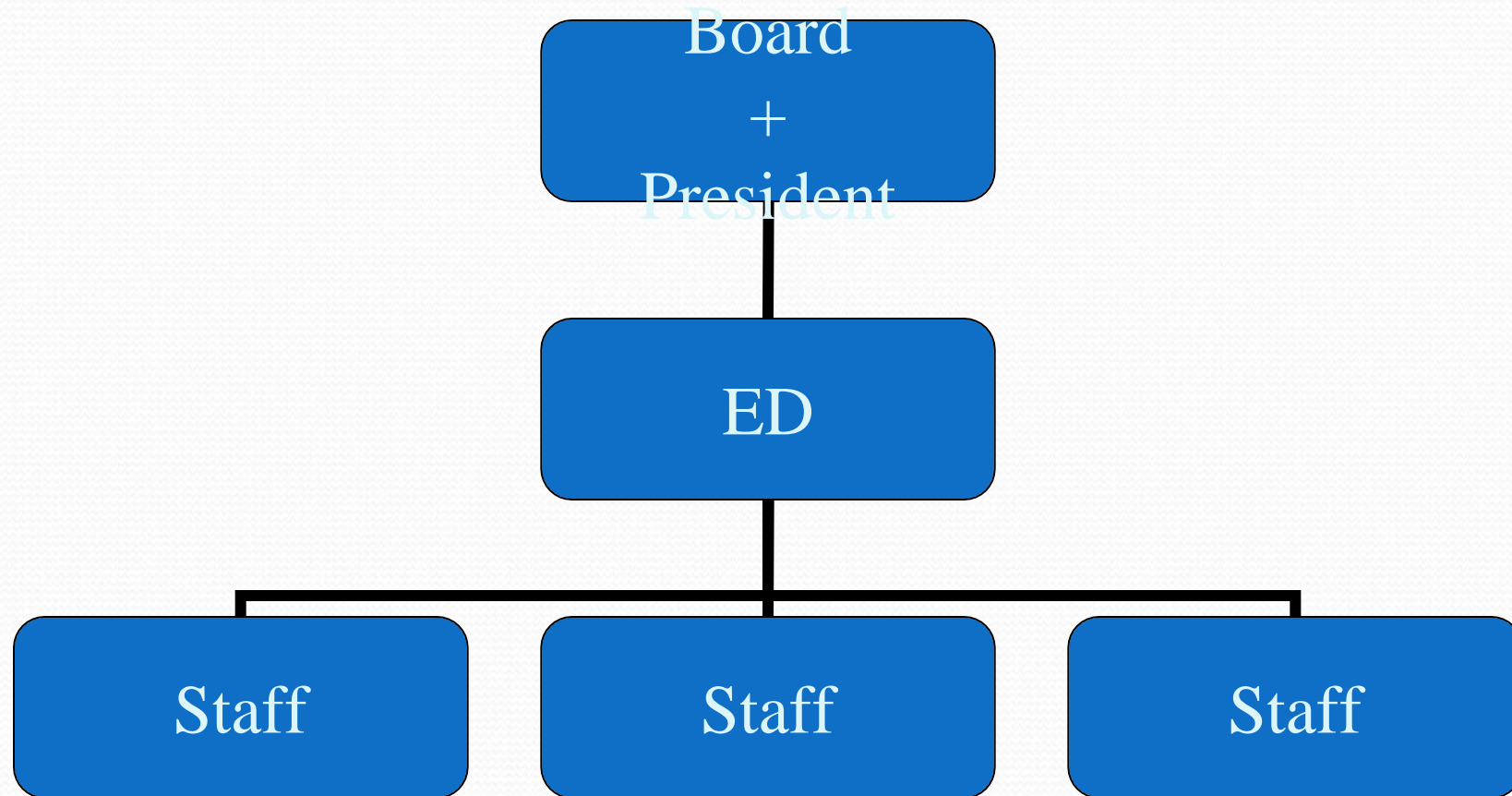
Empowering – Employment & Economic Development

Prevention - youth & Family Development

Established in 1998

New Way Mississippi, Inc.

Who We Are:



New Way Mississippi, Inc.

Staff Positions:

- Executive Director
- Program Director
- Office manager
- Case manager
- Counselor
- Work force Developer
- Store Manager
- Facility Manager
- Facility Monitors
- Drivers

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Who We Are:

Transitional Housing Program

- 501 c 3 Tax Exempt Status
- Target Population – Ex-offenders & their families.
- Motto – “Restoring and Empowering Communities – one family at a time.”
- Supportive Services – counseling, financial management, job skills training, job placement and GED classes.

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Community leadership buy in/partnerships

NWMI partner on Federal, state, County and local levels

NWMI has leadership buy in from the church, business & Civic community



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Referral Base:

- MDOC facilities, State Probation/Parole offices.
- Local Sheriff Departments.
- City of Jackson & Mississippi statewide communities.
- Community Churches & Outreach Ministries.
- Concerned Families.
- Homeless service providers.

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Barriers Ex-offenders face that cause recidivism/failure

- Affordable safe housing.
- Employment & Economic Development Opportunities
- The lack of education
- Chemical dependence/mental health problems.
- Medical Care
- Family support System
- Transportation

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Addressing The Needs:

Transitional Services Provided
(4 -6 months program)

- A/D counseling & relapse prevention.
- Mentoring (pre & post released).
- Spiritual Development.
- Transportation assistance.
- Nutrition Program/food assistance.
- Pre & Post employment training & retention.
- Financial Management Training.
- Individual & group therapy.
- Family reunification services.
- GED & education assistance.

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Who We Are:

Current Operation

- 3 Transitional Living Centers (level 1) – Jackson, Mississippi.
- 5 community resident facilities (level 2) – Jackson, Mississippi
- Total capacity – 107 beds (25 female beds & 82 male beds).

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Transitional Living Centers (Male and Female)

Jackson, Mississippi



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Service Site & Location: Residential Facilities



New Way MS. Employment Training Program workforce development training center



Mentoring & Community involvement:

Mentoring is at the heart of NWMI 's success in decreasing recidivism ...

Fellowship & hands on relationship from church leaders change hearts & modify behavior in offenders lives ...



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Clients Served:

- 2011 – offenders days served - 1,686
- 2012 - offenders days served – 3,931
- 2013 – offenders days served – 5,245
- 2014- offender days served - 12,136
- 2015 – 356 offenders were served over a 365 day period

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Community involvement



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2015 Success

- 93 offenders has entered into the our employment training program (ETP).
- 72 has completed the ETP.
- 46 has been employed after completing ETP.
- 37 has been reunited with their families through our family reunification program (FRP).

Causes for criminal behavior among ex-offenders

- Convicted felons are less likely to acquire gainful employment to support themselves and their families.
- Their children are more likely to encounter legal problems than other segments of the population, unless there are some types of intervention in their lives, which often lead to generations of men and women entering into the penal system.

Causes of criminal behavior (cont.)

- Lack of economic opportunities has proven to lead to criminal behavior; if we track high crime areas we will find that it is more widespread in economically depressed areas.
- Substance abuse is a major cause of criminal behavior such as: robberies, domestic violence, DUI, white collar crime, child support violations, homicides/murders, etc...
- Mental illness is a major contribution to criminal behavior; diagnosed and undiagnosed; dually diagnosed individuals... in some cases we find mental illness induced by substance abuse (particularly drugs such as cocaine, crack & crystal meth, etc.).... Client off of their meds. In some cases because they don't like the side effects or for economic reasons.

Reasons of Recidivism

32.98% in the State of Mississippi

- Lack of support and/or advocacy when they are released.
- Lack of adequate education.
- Minimum job skill.
- Ongoing substance abuse/chemical dependency problem.
- Lack of adequate housing opportunities.
- Returning to economically depressed communities.
- Reconnecting with negative relationships.
- Minimum and no relationship with their family.

Solutions

- Debriefing during post incarceration is very important.
- Employment training and placement program.
- Mentoring programs that create positive relationships; more church involvement and community leadership involvement.
- involving local businesses by helping them understand the value of ex-offenders untapped labor resources and the impact on public safety when they give them an employment opportunity.

Solutions (cont.)

- Family reunification programs presented to the client when they have demonstrated progress and a desire to reconnect with family members.
- Permanent housing assistance.
- Financial management training program using local financial/banking institutions.
- Ongoing relapse prevention programs to include support group sessions and random drug testing.
- Assist mentally ill clients with staying on their meds and keep appointments.